

# NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



## *Office of Public Information*

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For immediate release

### **Jury Duty Prank Strikes Nebraska Residents**

Nebraska residents have been receiving text messages and emails, saying they have missed their scheduled jury duty dates and could be fined \$500 or receive jail sentences of up to 30 days.

The prank is not a scam and does not involve money, but it is upsetting Nebraskans who take their civic obligations seriously. Nebraska court clerks have been notified of the prank in order to minimize the confusion caused by the hoax.

Madison County Clerk of District Court, Marjorie Schaffer, received two phone calls earlier this week from Madison County residents who had received the message. According to Schaffer, "Both were very worried, and I assured them they were not in trouble."

The prank messages contain telephone numbers to call, and when people call the number, they are told in the final sentence of the message that the information is a joke and asks callers to pass it to "gullible" friends. Telephone numbers include 704-319-7254 and 704-319-7242.

Although these messages do not ask for personal information, Nebraskans are cautioned that court staff do not contact residents by phone or email to ask for Social Security numbers, credit card numbers, or other sensitive information.

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